

REMARKS

Applicant requests that claim 16 be amended, only to make it clear that the stabilizer (150 in Fig. 2) is fixed to a stationary portion (60) of the actuator, and that the “curved” stabilizer portion refers to the fact that the stabilizer extends in a curve.

Claim 15 and 16 remain in the application, of which both were rejected.

Claim 15 was rejected as obvious over Woudenberg (4,664,098) in view of Barkalow (3,610,233) and Mills (3,978,854). Claim 15 describes apparatus for applying compressions to the chest of a patient, such as shown in applicant's Fig. 2. The apparatus includes a cylinder (60) and a plurality of telescoping piston parts (64, 66) that telescope in one another and that are exposed to pressured air in the cylinder. The lowermost piston part (66 and at 66A) has a lower piston inside surface (74) exposed to the pressured air. The lower piston inside surface has at least half the diameter of the inside surface of the cylinder (60). This assures that the actuator can apply a large force to the patient's chest along the entire stroke 90 of the piston. The telescoping pistons allow the device to be used in a space of limited height.

Woudenberg and Barkalow each shows a chest compressor without a stabilizer. Mills shows a device for supplying oxygen at a low pressure to a patient. His Fig. 7 shows that when the pressure to the left of diaphragm 44' decreases, the center 110 of the diaphragm moves to the left and deflects a valve stem 76' to admit more oxygen into the chamber 54'. To manually increase oxygen pressure, a person depresses a button 134 to move it to the left. The button pushes a plunger 128 to the left. This tends to compress a spring 154 which pushes a piston 144 against the diaphragm. The piston 144 slides within the plunger 128, which Mills refers to a “telescoping” (col. 6, lines 2-6). Thus, Mills does not suggest applicant's plurality of telescoping piston parts that provide a long actuation in a short storage space.

Claim 16 was rejected as obvious over Waide (5,399,148) in view of

Cantrell (6,174,295). Claim 16 describes a stationary saucer-shaped stabilizer fixed to a stationary portion of the actuator. The stabilizer has a outer portion (e.g. 160 in Fig. 2) extending in a curve substantially completely around the axis and that rests against the patient's chest.

Waide shows bent legs 3 that each engages the patient along about 60°, for a total of about 120°. Cantrell shows an actuator with a stationary compression device 40 (his Fig. 2) that alternately depresses and lifts a pad unit 20. His pad unit 20 (his Figs. 3 & 4) includes a pair of lateral bands 33a, 33b and a pair of end bands 33c, 33d. His Fig. 4 shows a pair of rubber gasket strips such as 31a and adhesive strips 32a, 32b attached to his lateral bands, but not to his end bands. His adhesive strips 32a, 32b are fixed to an elastic sheet 22 that moves up and down with his center pad 23 and adhesive strip. Thus, in Cantrell, if his rubber gasket strips such as 31a and adhesive strips 32a, 32b are considered part of a stabilizer then they do not extend substantially completely around the axis. Also, the center of his unit 20 is not fixed to a stationary portion of his actuator.

Entrance of the amendment is courteously requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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